

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 COME-00 EB-07 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

AGR-05 USPS-01 SAI-01 /094 W
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R 251659Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3207

INFO AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY SOFIA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY MEXICO

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, BTRA, UK

SUBJECT: THE TUC GOES ABROAD

REF: (A) LONDON 10864; (B) STATE 169526

SUMMARY: THE TUC IS PLANNING TO SEND REPRESENTATIVES TO VARIOUS COUNTRIES THIS SUMMER AND AUTUMN. ONE OF THE MOST INTERESTING OF THESE IS A SMALL, HIGH LEVEL DELEGATION TO SYRIA. OTHER VISITS PROJECTED INCLUDE THE UNITED STATES, ISRAEL, BULGARIA AND YUGOSLAVIA. END SUMMARY.

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1. SYRIA AND ISRAEL. TUC GENERAL SECRETARY LEN MURRAY

AND TRANSPORTWORKERS GENERAL SECRETARY JACK JONES WILL VISIT SYRIA SEPTEMBER 8-10. A TUC OFFICIAL TOLD US THAT SYRIAN UNIONS HAVE INVITED THE TUC FOR SEVERAL YEARS, BUT THIS IS THE FIRST POSITIVE RESPONSE. (THE TUC'S ATTITUDE ON THE MIDDLE EAST SHIFTED AFTER THE 1973 YOM KIPPUR WAR FROM A PRO-ISRAEL POSITION TO THAT OF A RELATIVELY "EVEN HANDED" APPROACH TOWARDS THE CONTENDING FORCES IN THAT AREA.) HOWEVER, PERHAPS IN ORDER TO BALANCE THE VISIT TO SYRIA, MURRAY WILL BE MAKING HIS FIRST VISIT -- DESCRIBED AS A "PERSONAL" ONE -- TO ISRAEL -- SOMEWHAT EARLIER -- ON AUGUST 20.

2. UNITED STATES. THE TUC WILL BE SENDING DANIEL MCGARVEY, GENERAL PRESIDENT OF THE AMALGAMATED SOCIETY OF BOILERMAKERS, SHIPWRIGHTS, BLACKSMITHS AND STRUCTURAL WORKERS, INSTEAD OF JOHN BOYD, TO THE AFL-CIO CONVENTION IN SAN FRANCISCO OCTOBER 2-7. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY MARTIN REDMOND OF THE NATIONAL UNION OF MINERS. (BOYD THUS CARRIED OUT HIS THREAT NOT TO ATTEND IN A LESSER CAPACITY THAN THAT OF MEMBER OF THE TUC GENERAL COUNCIL - REF. (A).)

3. WE ARE ALSO INFORMED THAT MURRAY HAS WRITTEN AFL-CIO PRESIDENT MURRAY THAT IN VIEW OF THE MEETING OF THE TUC GENERAL COUNCIL ON OCTOBER 29, HE CANNOT ACCEPT MEANY'S INVITATION FOR A MEETING ON OCTOBER 28 REF. (B) IN WASHINGTON. HE HAS SUGGESTED INSTEAD AN OCTOBER 25 DATE, AFTER MURRAY RETURNS FROM THE ICFTU CONGRESS IN MEXICO.

4. EASTERN EUROPE. A DELEGATION HEADED BY MURRAY AND JONES WILL VISIT BULGARIA AND YUGOSLAVIA NOVEMBER 17-22. IT WILL ALSO INCLUDE TOM JACKSON OF THE POSTAL WORKERS; REG BOTTINI OF THE AGRICULTURAL WORKERS; AND GEORGE SMITH OF THE CONSTRUCTION WORKERS.

RICHARDSON

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